


STS CONSULTANTS

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September 21, 2005

Mr. Eugene Jablonowski, On-Scene Coordinator
Ms. Verneta Simon, On-Scene Coordinator
U. S. Environmental Protection Agency
Region 5
77 W. Jackson Boulevard, SE-5J
Chicago, Illinois 60604



RE: Notice of Discovery of Potentially Radiologically-Impacted Material
STS Project No. 1-32193-XC

Dear Mr. Jablonowski and Ms. Simon:

This letter is intended to provide written confirmation of the elevated gamma reading potentially indicative of radiologically-impacted material that were observed during test pitting efforts on September 14, 2005. A verbal report of the discovery was made in person to Eugene Jablonowski and Larry Jensen of the USEPA late in the afternoon of September 14, 2005 at the USEPA Region V office in Chicago, Illinois.

The proposed Chandler Building will be located directly to the east of the Regatta Building. As such, a majority of the Chandler lot is located within the boundaries of the former north slip (Slip D). Therefore, gamma surveying of test pits within the former north slip were conducted by Glen Huber (SAHCI) prior to the installation of caissons for the proposed Chandler Building.


The gamma surveying observed elevated gamma readings at a single caisson test pit (caisson #19) for Chandler Building on September 14, 2005. Due to the depth of the excavation and stability of the excavation side walls, the gamma surveying was being conducted on the spoil from the excavation. The spoil material removed from the caisson test pit had a maximum gamma count of 81,000 counts per minute (cpm). This spoil material was removed from the caisson test pit at a depth of about 8 feet below the ground surface. Further excavation from the test pit was halted after observation of the elevation gamma readings. Because of the depth of the hole and sidewall stability issues, a comprehensive survey could not be performed within the test pit excavation. However, limited gamma surveys did not observe contamination in the sidewalls, but suggested that the floor of the excavation was the source of the elevated readings.

The spoil material that exhibited the elevated gamma readings was placed into three supersack containers (half-filled). Glen Huber (SAHCI) resurveyed the entire spoil pile from the test pit by having the operator spread the spoil out into lifts with a maximum thickness of 18-inch. The maximum count rate of the spoil pile was 10,200 cpm. The test pit was partially backfilled with gravel (utilized as a marker layer) followed by the clean spoil material. At this time, it is anticipated that remediation activities at this caisson location will take place on September 27, 2005.

Please contact us with any questions you have regarding this letter or the project.

Regards,

STS CONSULTANTS, LTD.


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Senior Geochemist


Douglas J. Hermann
Principal

cc: Kimberly Worthington, Chicago Department of Environment
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EPA Region 5 Records Ctr.



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